

OBITUARY.

The Council regret that they have to record the loss by death of the following Fellows and Associates during the past year :—

Fellows :—Raphael Louis Bischoffsheim.
 Rev. John Bone.
 Everard Home Roberts Coleman.*
 Thomas R. Dallmeyer.
 Robert Isaac Finnemore.
 Joseph H. Freeman.
 Joseph Gledhill.
 Charles Jasper Joly.*
 John Joynson.
 Alfred Edward Nicholls.
 Robert Rawson.
 William John Reynolds.
 Philip E. Sewell.
 Rev. George Venables.

Associates :—Samuel Pierpont Langley.
 Jean Abraham Chrétien Oudemans.

Obituary notices are also given of the following, who died in January 1907 :—

Agnes Mary Clerke (Honorary Member).
 William Johnston.
 William Simms.

RAPHAEL LOUIS BISCHOFFSHEIM, son of Louis Bischoffsheim, founder of the Bischoffsheim Bank, was born at Amsterdam, 22nd July 1823. At an early age he was sent to Paris, there to study for entry to the Central School of Arts and Manufactures, into which he was admitted in 1839. On leaving the school he was attached to the staff of the Railway de la Haute-Italie as Inspecting Engineer. Later, he took over the direction of his father's bank, finally settling down in Paris, where, on 24th April 1880, he obtained full letters of naturalisation for "services rendered to the country." For many years he was well known for his liberality towards anything tending to promote the welfare of literature, science, and art, and the value of his donations was finally acknowledged by his admission, as life member, to the Académie des Sciences on 16th June 1890.

Especially fond of astronomy, he presented a costly equipment

* Obituary in Annual Report, 1905.

to the Paris Observatory, the Equatorial Coudé and a Meridian Circle being due to his munificence; he subsidised the Observatory on Mont Blanc, and contributed towards the expense of redetermining the length of an arc of the meridian at Quito.

But he will, above all, be remembered as the founder of the Observatory of Nice, in the organisation of which he was assisted by the experience and authority of the Bureau des Longitudes. Having brought into existence this great institution, he entrusted its direction to the able and energetic astronomer Perrotin. He generously endowed the observatory, and finally assured its future by presenting it to the University of Paris. This foundation has rendered the name of Bischoffsheim familiar to astronomers in every land, and the *Annales* of his Observatory will form the imperishable memorial of its founder.

M. Bischoffsheim was elected a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society on the 14th January 1881. G. B.

THE REV. JOHN BONE was the second son of John and Mary Bone, of Melton Lodge, Surrey. He was born on 20th October 1834. He graduated at King's College, London, in theology, with first-class honours, in 1861, and in the same year he was ordained Deacon by the Bishop of Rochester. He was first licensed to the curacy of Radwell, Herts, and in 1862 was ordained priest. In 1863 he became curate of Poulton-le-Fylde. Thence he went to Melksham, Wilts, and from 1865 to 1873 he occupied the position of curate-in-charge of North Meols, Lancashire. He also served on the committee of the Southport Infirmary. In 1863 he married Eliza, youngest daughter of Samuel and Mary Mayhew, of Camberwell Park, Surrey.

As incumbent of St Thomas' Church, Lancaster, Mr Bone "read himself in" on the last Sunday in May 1873, so that he had held the living exactly thirty-three years. He was the oldest beneficed clergyman in Lancaster in point of length of time he had held the living.

For some years he conducted a class in astronomy at the Storey Institute, and was never happier than when introducing others into the mysteries and delights of solar science. Whenever any astronomical phenomenon was observable in Lancaster his was the brain that guided local observers, and by his personal observation of the heavens he has at various times been able to render good service to the cause of astronomical research. In the work of the Lancaster Astronomical and Scientific Association he took a deep interest, contributing several papers on various phases of the planetary, solar, and lunar systems. There are many in Lancaster who entertain feelings of gratitude to Mr Bone for the lead he gave them in their first essays in astronomy. The establishment of the Greg Observatory, of which he was honorary Director, was mainly due to his perseverance.

The sudden death of his wife in July 1903 was a great blow to him, and for a time he was prostrated. He rallied, however,